

**Missouri Department of Health
Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance (HSEES) Program
2001 Prevention Outreach Plan**

Prevention Activity #1: 1999 Event Summary Reports by County

Target Groups:

- Facilities/employees
- Responders
- Emergency management organizations
- Medical care providers
- Local public health agencies
- Members of the general public

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary – Increased awareness of hazardous substance emergency events will promote safer handling and will lead to more effective responses to hazardous releases.
- Secondary – Enhanced availability of data to responders, medical care providers, health agencies, and the general public will help these individuals minimize the morbidity and mortality that result from hazardous substance releases.

Justification:

Quarterly reports have been developed for the ten counties with the highest number of events during the five-year data analysis period (1994-1998) during calendar year 2000 as outlined in the FFY'2000 Prevention Outreach Plan (Activity #2). Individuals and agencies from counties not included in the top ten have expressed an interest in having this same type of data available to them. Because the HSEES program is staffed with only one person, it is not feasible to produce quarterly reports for all Missouri counties; however, it is possible to produce annual reports in order to distribute current information within each county.

Description of Activity:

Reports summarizing 1999 event data, such as the number of events per county, substances released, injuries, evacuations and "interesting events", will be developed and distributed to the above target groups. The reports will be available to members of the general public through the HSEES web site. Links to the reports will be included on the Department of Health's "Community Data Profile" web page for each county. Reports will also be sent to fixed facilities within these counties that had at least one reportable event within the previous calendar year.

Collaborators:

- Department of Public Safety (provided police and fire department data)
- Missouri Emergency Response Commission (provided emergency management organization data)
- Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (provided facility data for the survey mailing list)

Effectiveness Measure:

This activity will be considered effective if a decrease of 10 percent or more is noted statewide in the number of events and the number of injuries during calendar year 2002. The number of "hits" made on the web site will also measure effectiveness. The number of collaborative relationships with the target groups listed should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: June 30, 2001

Prevention Activity #2: Fact Sheets on Mercury, Chlorine and Lead

Target Groups:

- Employees and managers of facilities that use, handle, transport, manufacture or store any or all of these three substances (based on the survey conducted for Activity #1 in the FFY'2000 prevention plan and 2000 Tier II reports, if available)
- Facilities that have had a release involving any of these three substances (as soon as data can be downloaded which includes the full event name and address)
- Responders
- Public and private K-12 schools (mercury only)
- Health care providers
- Emergency management organizations
- Members of the general public

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary – Increased awareness of hazardous substance emergency events will promote safer handling and transportation procedures, and will lead to more effective responses to hazardous releases.
- Secondary – Knowledge of symptoms following chemical exposure and first aid measures will decrease injuries.

Justification:

Chlorine, lead and mercury are among the top 10 substances released in Missouri. Five fact sheets in the series of the top 10 chemicals spilled was begun last year. These three chemicals will be added this year. There are currently 303 companies who reported using, handling, transporting, manufacturing and/or storing one or more of these three chemicals. In addition, several incidents involving mercury have been reported by schools.

Description of Activity:

Fact sheets will be developed on mercury, chlorine and lead using the same format designed for the fact sheets prepared in the FFY'2000 prevention plan (Activity #1). After the fact sheets are finalized, they will be distributed to the target groups noted above. The fact sheets will also be published on the Missouri HSEES web site. The mercury fact sheet will also be distributed to all public and private K-12 schools in Missouri. A cover letter will accompany the fact sheet and will provide additional information on available resources relating to the handling and use of mercury in schools.

Collaborators:

- Missouri Emergency Response Commission (will provide Tier II report data)
- Department of Natural Resources (provided hazardous materials transporter data)
- Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (provided facility data for survey mailing)
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (will provide school data)

Effectiveness Measure:

- Prevention activities will be considered effective if a decrease of 10 percent or more is noted in the number of events and the number of injuries during calendar year 2002 in which one or more of these three substances are involved.
- Effectiveness will be measured based on the number of fact sheets that are distributed and the number of "hits" made on the HSEES web site.

Date Activity is to be Completed: September 30, 2001

Prevention Activity #3: Contracts with Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs)

Target Groups:

- Facilities/employees
- Responders
- Members of the general public
- Health care providers

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary – Increased awareness of hazardous substance emergency events will promote safer handling and will lead to more effective responses to hazardous releases.
- Secondary – Enhanced availability of data to first responders, medical care providers, health agencies, and the general public will help these individuals minimize the morbidity and mortality that result from hazardous substance releases.

Justification:

LEPCs were selected as the group to utilize for these presentations because they are very familiar with the facilities and the chemicals used in each facility through the Tier II reporting process. LEPCs have also already identified where and what types of training activities are most effective within each county as determined by the development of a comprehensive plan, and can provide educational sessions geared toward each individual audience or target group. The individual LEPCs selected to participate were based on the counties with the highest number of events recorded during the five-year data analysis period (1994-1998).

Description of Activity:

These contracts will provide support for comprehensive, community-based prevention activities at the local level. Each LEPC will be required to conduct six educational presentations during calendar year 2001. At least one presentation must be targeted to each of the standard population groups (employees, first responders and the general public). In addition, each presentation must include information on the HSEES program, which will be provided by the HSEES Coordinator. The HSEES Coordinator will also provide fact sheets, quarterly reports, reporting forms, and county and industry specific data upon request. The LEPC will be reimbursed \$166.67 for each presentation given after the appropriate reports have been submitted and are reviewed/approved by the HSEES Coordinator to process payment. Funding will be provided through the HSEES FFY'2001 grant. Through these contracts, we will ensure that a total of 30 presentations are conducted in the five counties with the greatest number of events with injuries, and that each population group is targeted.

Collaborators:

- Missouri Emergency Response Commission (oversees LEPC activities)
- LEPCs from the counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Jackson, Jefferson and St. Louis City

Effectiveness Measure:

Each LEPC must include representatives from law enforcement, fire fighting, health, local government, hospitals, broadcast and print media, community groups, owners/operators of facilities, and elected state and local officials. By enhancing our partnership with LEPCs, we will increase awareness regarding the goals and objectives of the HSEES program among local governmental agencies, health care providers, first responders, fixed facilities, and other community groups. The number of collaborative relationships with these groups should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: December 31, 2001

Prevention Activity #4: Educational Presentations at National/State/Local Conferences

Target Groups:

- Industry groups
- Responders
- Emergency management organizations
- Health care providers
- Local public health agencies

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary and Secondary – Personnel who attend these conferences and training sessions come from the entire state. After attending, they will return to their jurisdictions and will share information to increase awareness of hazardous substance emergencies, and decrease the number of spills and victims.

Justification:

During FFY'2000, the HSEES Coordinator presented or exhibited information at six national/state/local conferences. The feedback from these presentations has been very positive and has led to an increased awareness of hazardous substance emergency events among the participants. These conferences/meeting also provided the program with an excellent opportunity to share fact sheets, reports, and other materials developed by the HSEES Coordinator. Based on the success of this activity, it is our intention to continue conducting these types of presentations during 2001.

Description of Activity:

Information on the HSEES program will be provided at national, regional, state, and local conferences and training sessions that target emergency management directors, local police and fire department personnel, city/county officials, etc. Conferences and training sessions attract a large number and variety of personnel from the target groups listed will be targeted. Providing presentations is one of the most effective methods available to establish relationships and share information with these groups. These conferences allow us to reach the maximum number of people in the target groups in the most effective manner.

The HSEES Coordinator has also been involved in planning an "Emergency Preparedness" seminar with the department's Central District Health Office, which is scheduled to be held in March. This seminar will be targeted to environmental public health specialists working for local public health agencies in the district, in addition to representatives from the LEPCs located in the district. This seminar may be presented statewide based upon the success of, and interest generated by, the initial presentation.

Collaborators:

- State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA annual conference)
- Coordinators of other national/state/local conferences

Effectiveness Measure:

By providing information on HSEES events, we will increase awareness regarding the goals and objectives of the program among local governmental agencies, health care providers, first responders, fixed facilities, and other community groups. The number of collaborative relationships with these groups should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: December 31, 2001